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news

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WASHINGTON, D.C., OKLAHOMA LEAD IN UNITED VAN LINES MIGRATION STUDY

ST. LOUIS--Oklahoma heads the list of contiguous states attracting the greatest percentage of new residents versus people moving away, according to a migration pattern study conducted by United Van Lines, one of the world's largest movers of household goods. Of total movements handled by the van line to and from the state of Oklahoma, more than 62 percent were inbound.

The study, based on more than 135,000 household goods shipments the van line serviced in 50 states during 1981, revealed that the District of Columbia had the highest in-migration percentage. Of total movements handled in the District, 65.4 percent were inbound.

Total inbound and outbound shipments United handled were compared state by state in the study. If 55 percent or more of relocation activity was inbound, the state was considered to have high inbound migration.

United's migration pattern study shows that states in the Pacific Northwest, Southwest and Southeast are continuing to gain more inbound than outbound shipments. Besides the District of Columbia and Oklahoma, states considered to have high in-migration include Alaska, Hawaii, Arizona, Florida, Texas, Colorado, Utah, Washington, Oregon, Virginia, and South Carolina.

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"With energy independence becoming a major concern for our country, much of the movement seems to be to states that are rich in oil and natural gas, such as Texas, Oklahoma and Alaska," said Robert J. Baer, United Van Lines' executive vice president and chief operating officer. "These areas offer many job opportunities that hold promise for people now and in the future."

The mild climates of Florida and Hawaii are still major attractions too. Of Florida's 17,367 total shipments, almost 60 percent were inbound. Of Hawaii's total shipments, 60.7 percent were inbound.

Governmental changes and military transfers account for the District of Columbia's high inbound status. The District has consistently led United's list of high inbound areas since the study was begun five years ago.

States with high out-migration were Michigan, West Virginia and Wisconsin. A state is considered to have a high out-migration if 44.9 percent or less of total activity is inbound. Only 33.1 percent of shipments handled in Michigan were inbound; West Virginia 36.7; Wisconsin 38.8. Other states with high out-migration were New York, South Dakota, Montana, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Ohio, North Dakota, Indiana, Iowa, New Jersey, New Hampshire, Mississippi, Alabama, Missouri, Minnesota, North Carolina and Maine.

"Our business in the East, Northeast and North Central states continues to indicate that more people are moving away from those areas than to them," Baer said. "We believe the unstable economy and high cost of doing business for major manufacturers located in these areas have influenced this population shift. The often severe winter weather,

energy shortages and high cost of living have also caused people to move elsewhere."

Nineteen states experienced an approximate balance between outbound and inbound movement, the United study revealed. This means that between 45 percent and 54.9 percent of the activity was inbound.

Five states accounted for 37.5 percent of all household goods shipments handled by United. These states were California (32,012 shipments), Texas (30,354 shipments), Florida (17,637 shipments), Illinois (11,157 shipments), and New York (10,909 shipments).

Vermont, which was listed among the high in-migration states in 1980, did not maintain that status in 1981. High inbound activity in Colorado, however, elevated the state to high in-migration status.

For the second consecutive year, Michigan was the leading state in high outbound movement.

Kentucky, Massachusetts, and Connecticut which showed high out-migration in the 1980 study appeared balanced in 1981.

United Van Lines is one of the world's largest movers of household goods and has more than 1,100 agents in 150 countries around the globe. The van line also handles shipments of electronic equipment, as well as exhibits, displays and plant and office relocations. World headquarters is in suburban St. Louis.

1981

(BASED ON OVER 135,000 HOUSEHOLD GOODS SHIPMENTS)

	Total Shipments	Outbound Shipments	Inbound Shipments	% Inbound Shipments
Alabama	4,013	2,244	1,769	44.1
Alaska	819	319	500	61.1
Arizona	6,187	2,446	3,741	60.5
Arkansas	1,712	807	905	52.9
California	32,012	15,218	16,794	52.5
Colorado	8,570	3,621	4,949	57.7
Connecticut	3,324	1,771	1,553	46.7
Delaware	998	528	470	47.1
D.C.	1,207	418	789	65.4
Florida	17,367	6,968	10,399	59.9
Georgia	8,737	4,557	4,178	47.8
Hawaii	524	206	318	60.7
Idaho	1,569	745	824	52.5
Illinois	11,157	6,660	4,497	40.3
Indiana	3,557	2,043	1,514	42.6
Iowa	2,132	1,202	930	43.6
Kansas	4,208	2,270	1,938	46.1
Kentucky	3,154	1,711	1,443	45.8
Louisiana	5,464	2,603	2,861	52.4
Maine	1,525	841	684	44.9
Maryland	4,151	2,029	2,122	51.1
Massachusetts	5,410	2,950	2,460	45.5
Michigan	7,992	5,346	2,646	33.1
Minnesota	3,596	1,990	1,606	44.7
Mississippi	2,226	1,246	980	44.0
Missouri	6,085	3,399	2,686	44.1
Montana	1,452	868	584	40.2
Nebraska	1,693	820	873	51.6
Nevada	2,752	1,301	1,451	52.7
New Hampshire	1,391	779	612	44.0
New Jersey	6,695	3,755	2,940	43.9
New Mexico	2,796	1,271	1,525	54.5
New York	10,909	6,583	4,326	39.7
North Carolina	6,844	3,782	3,062	44.7
North Dakota	939	539	400	42.6
Ohio	8,857	5,263	3,594	40.6
Oklahoma	3,348	1,255	2,093	62.5
Oregon	3,186	1,413	1,773	55.6
Pennsylvania	8,099	4,826	3,273	40.4
Rhode Island	725	355	370	51.0
South Carolina	3,472	1,585	1,887	54.3
South Dakota	668	400	268	40.1
Tennessee	4,743	2,275	2,468	52.0
Texas	30,354	12,305	18,049	59.5
Utah	1,844	802	1,042	56.7
Vermont	408	188	220	53.9
Virginia	7,484	3,363	4,121	55.1
Washington	6,601	2,869	3,732	56.5
West Virginia	1,377	876	501	36.4
Wisconsin	3,474	2,127	1,347	38.8
Wyoming	1,418	727	691	48.7

UNITED STATES MIGRATION PATTERNS IN 1981
ACCORDING TO SHIPMENTS HANDLED BY UNITED VAN LINES

(Based in over 135,000 household goods shipment)